



## COMING TO VANCOUVER, WA

### How Media Can Influence Public Perceptions of Mental Illnesses and What You Can Do About It

#### Free training and lunch for

- Reporters
- Mental health consumers and peers
- First responders
- Mental health providers
- Caregivers
- Anyone interested

*Sponsored by the Washington State Mental Health Transformation Project, the University of Washington School of Social Work, and the Clark County Regional Support Network.*

[www.mentalhealthreporting.org](http://www.mentalhealthreporting.org)

**A training for individuals interested in seeing more accurate reporting on issues related to mental illness in the news. Anyone interested in improving public understanding of mental illness, wellness and recovery is invited.**

Social stigma against people with mental illness is alive and well in Washington State, creating barriers to recovery and wellness for thousands of individuals. As a person informed on mental health issues, you know first-hand the harm discrimination causes. Since public perceptions are shaped by popular and news media, this training will help raise awareness of the ways in which media characterizations can be inaccurate, how language shapes community attitudes and, on how to work successfully with local media organizations to provide accurate information about mental health.

DATE: **Tuesday, July 14, 2009**

TIME: **10:00 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.**

LOCATION: **Clark County Center for Community Health  
2nd Floor Main Conference Rooms  
1601 East Fourth Plain Boulevard, Building 17  
Vancouver, Washington**

DEADLINE for registration: **Tuesday, July 7, 2009**

To register for the training and for lunch, please send, fax, or email the information below to:

Melanie Green, Recovery Coordinator, Clark County RSN, P.O. Box 5000, Vancouver, WA 98666  
Phone: (360) 397-2130 ext.7805 • Fax: (360) 397-6028 • email: [Melanie.Green@clark.wa.gov](mailto:Melanie.Green@clark.wa.gov)

For more information, go to: [www.mhtransformation.wa.gov](http://www.mhtransformation.wa.gov)

Registration deadline is Tuesday, July 7, 2009. Space is limited. Confirmation will be sent prior to training.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

I want to learn more about:

- ☐ Where to find credible information for reporting on mental illness.
- ☐ How to write letters and op-ed pieces for publications.
- ☐ How to work with reporters on story ideas.
- ☐ How language and misconceptions about violence shape public perceptions.
- ☐ Research on news reporting trends about people with mental illness.
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_



Washington's  
**Mental Health Transformation Project**  
*Partnerships for Recovery & Resiliency*